

Puddletown Surgery Patient Participation Group

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 8th April 2009

Present: Glad Antell Jean Bryson
David Croft Jenny Gaitskell
Lynne Nicholas Ann Norman
Shirley Parker Liz Reed
Sandra Ralph John Solly (Chairman)
Carol Taylor (Practice Manager)
Lorna Willey

1 **Welcome:**

Sandra Ralph, New Member, Representing the Piddle Valley
Ann Norman, New Member, Learning to take Minutes

2 **Apologies:**

Sue Brazier, on holiday. Marion Greenman (We wish her a speedy recovery)

3 **Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 10th December 2008**

Agreed

4 **Items Arising (not on Agenda)**

Fiona Wisher has been unable to attend recent meetings and has not responded to communications, so is considered to have resigned from the committee. Carol to update contact list. **Action: CT**

It was agreed that the Surgery will advertise the availability of the “Free Swimming Sessions” in Dorchester. Carol will send this info out with the minutes for members to post locally. **Action: CT and members**

It was agreed that we would wish to find a volunteer to collate information regarding the free swimming and other exercise and relaxation courses on offer (Yoga, Pilates etc) and to make up a folder that can be accessed in the Surgery Reception Area.

On behalf of a neighbour, John raised the subject of repeat prescriptions being only one month’s supply at a time, whilst other surgeries gave 3 months supply. Carol explained the reason was to reduce the wastage of drugs when a patient has a reaction or adverse side effects, resulting in the medication being changed early to a different course of treatment. Medication may also be changed during a review. Carol also pointed out that patients who pay for their prescription are given, where possible, 2 months supply of medication to reduce their costs.

5 **Communication**

a) **Practice Newsletter**

The Easter Newsletter was reviewed with very favourable comments.

b) **Distribution of the Newsletter**

Difficulties have been encountered by the distributors in some areas: the amount of time involved, difficulty in finding addresses and cost endured by the distributors in some areas. The committee suggested that:

- i) The distributors be contacted and asked for feedback relating to any difficulties they were experiencing and for suggestions for improvement to alleviate these problems.
- ii) Posting to outlying areas such as Forston, Charlton Down and some of the more remote and out of the way rural villages.
- iii) Patients be asked for email addresses so that the newsletter be sent direct to them via email if they wished.

c) **PPG Notice board and Information Folder**

The re-siting of the notice board in its new position opposite the reception desk was met with favourable comments.

A volunteer is sought to collate a folder regarding exercise and health activities available to practice members. In the meantime members should continue to suggest items for the practice folder and refer them to Carol for inclusion.

d) **Website**

The publication of the PPG information has now been put on the website and members have received this information well and reported no problems arising from it. New Member Sandra consented to her phone number being published.

e) **Pharmacy White Paper**

Most rural dispensing practices are concerned at the potential threat of a pharmacy opening locally. If an application from a Pharmacist to open in Puddletown were received by Dorset Primary Care Trust they would carry out a Pharmacy Needs Assessment. The main issue from such a review could be the inaccessibility of over the counter medication for patients.

6 **Reports**

Reports (attached) were received from:

Carol Taylor, Practice Manager

Shirley Parker, Carers

Sue Brazier, Friends of the Practice Co-ordinator

Discussions arising from the reports were:

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Patient Education Sessions

a) Carers Tea Party, 21st May 2009

A draft information leaflet has been prepared and was circulated for comments.

b) Expert Patient Programme

It was decided that should anyone at the Puddletown practice wish to take part then, they should contact the EPP co-coordinator, whose number is on the posters on the Surgery notice board. An information leaflet will be put in the PPG folder. John has long felt that the name of the EPP be changed as no one is an expert in their condition. It is thought that a better name would be Living with a Long Term Condition which is also used. This subject has already been raised with the EPP.

c) Men Only Evening, 21st May 2009

This evening has been publicised in the Easter Surgery Newsletter. A Poster has been put up advertising this on the surgery notice board and a leaflet has been put into the PPG folder. It is hoped that this will be a successful evening, especially because of its siting at the Puddletown Sports Pavillion, which has a bar that will be open, making the evening more informal and pleasant.

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Membership of the Committee

The committee is becoming more geographically representative of the practice population. No members expressed a desire to retire at this stage.

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Date of Next Meeting

1st July 2009, 7.00pm at the Surgery